



Minutes NV COMMUNICATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE

DATE	February 3, 2004
TIME	1:15 pm – 3:00 pm
LOCATION	1263 South Stewart (NDOT) – Carson City 123 E. Washington St (NDOT) – Las Vegas
RECORDER	Maggie Thorne

ATTENDANCE

Carson City Members	Present	Las Vegas Members	Present
Terry Savage, Chair, Dept of Information Technology		Bill Donahoe, US Dept of Energy	
Robert Chisel, Dept of Transportation	✓	Dennis Cobb for Ray Flynn, LV Metro Police Dept	✓
Neil Harris, Elko County Sheriff's Office		Bob Lossle, FBI	
Heidi Sakelarios, NV Health Division	✓	James Spinello, Clark County	✓
Freeman Johnson, Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources	✓	Jack Staley, LV Valley Water District	✓
Bill Tilt for Dave Hosmer Dept of Public Safety	✓	Cody Whipple for Ronda Hornbeck, Lincoln County	✓
Dan Newell, City of Yerington	✓		
Ralph Jaeck, City of Reno	✓		
Chris Lake, NV Hospital Association	✓		
Dan Holler, Douglas County			

Staff

Name	Present	Name	Present
Mark Blomstrom, Dept of Information Technology	✓	Glade Myler, Attorney General's Office	✓
Maggie Thorne, Dept of Information Technology	✓	Dave McTeer Dept of Administration	
Jim Wilson, Clark County/SNACC			

I. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Terry Savage, Mark Blomstrom called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

II ROLL CALL/MINUTES

The roll call was conducted by Maggie Thorne. Present: 8 members, 3 alternates

Absent: 8

The minutes from the January 6 meeting were reviewed with no changes, but because there wasn't a quorum, no approval took place.

III. HOMELAND SECURITY COMMISSION UPDATE

Mark Blomstrom provided an update of the January 8 and January 22 meetings of the Homeland Security Commission (HSC). At the January 8 HSC meeting AB441 was discussed and 13 subcommittees were identified and approved. One of the approved subcommittees was the Communications Steering Committee (NCSC) to be co-chaired by Terry Savage and Jack Staley. Jack Staley was also named a member of the Homeland Security Commission. Mark mentioned that this was good news. NCSC is now approved and authorized to act as the Communications Committee to the Homeland Security Commission.

Mark then turned the gavel over to Jack Staley to chair the balance of the NCSC meeting. Jack Staley indicated that the NCSC will report to the Homeland Security Commission (HSC) on a regular basis. The next regular meeting of the HSC will be held on April 1. All recommendations from NCSC must be presented to HSC who will then present them to the Governor. Maggie Thorne asked if NCSC would be renamed the Communications Subcommittee, but Jack Staley said he saw no reason to change the current name. Glade Myler said legally he saw no reason for not continuing using the current name since the Committee has been adopted into HSC as an adjunct to them.

IV. GRANTS UPDATE

Mark Blomstrom a quick update on grants:

1. Grant for Communication Interoperability Plan – IfC approved for DoIT to received the grant funds. An RFP subcommittee has been formed, but are looking for one more member (rural preferably) to join the group.
2. Division of Emergency Management has submitted the infrastructure assessment for the State of Nevada and is available for review by the Nevada Homeland Security Commission and we will probably be seeing part of that assembled state picture relative to communications in the immediate future, but Mark did not know exactly when.

IV. E911 SURVEY

Ralph Jaeck introduced David Fraser from the League of Nevada Cities who in involved in a grant application along with the Nevada counties in terms of submitting a grant to do some 911 work. Ralph Jaeck proposed that NCSC work with the League in order that everyone would be able to get done with what needs to be done. Copies of grant application were distributed to members in the North and Maggie Thorne said she would distribute copies to the Southern members when she returned to her office. David Fraser and Ron Whinery (from Ron Whinery & Associates) both discussed the application grant with the NCSC members. Both men indicated they came today to see what NCSC was doing with regards to E911 so that all groups would not be duplicating efforts.

Ralph felt that the least NCSC should be doing is coordinating with these organizations. Mark mentioned that at the HSC meeting on January 22 a strategic plan was discussed and that E911 interoperability should be addressed in the Interoperability Plan. Mark proposed and recommended that NCSC work closely with the League of Cities and Mr. Whinery with these initiatives and did not see any conflict. Ralph mentioned that their would be a meeting tomorrow in Sparks with APCO and NENA on what their involvement would be. Jack Staley suggested that a short presentation on this subject be prepared to present to the HSC at their April 1st meeting and Mark agreed.

Chris Lake asked when the grant application needed to be submitted. Ron Whinery indicated the deadline was extended to April 5. The application is going to the Public Safety Foundation of America.

V. UPDATE ON FEDERAL AGENCIES RADIO SYSTEM (FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INTEGRATED WIRELESS NETWORK)

Mark reported that he heard back from Jim Ritter and because the Feds have a need to upgrade their FBI legacy equipment within the next 6 months they would be moving in that direction. Jim Ritter did indicate although the IWN would take 12 months, he felt that the partnering opportunities in Nevada fit well and should not be missed and would be having a represented contact Mark to further discuss this matter.

VI. TRANSITION PATH POSSIBILITIES AND SOFTWARE DEFINED RADIOS

Due to Terry Savage's absence, this item was postponed till Terry was available.

VII. STATUS REPORT – TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Due to the fact there was not technical meeting, no status report was given

VIII. MEMBER UPDATES AND COORDINATION

Nevada Shared Radio System: Rich Sheldrew. Rich felt he was not in a position to provide a report since he was heavily involved with the NHP system and would request delaying this report till the next meeting. Rich did indicate that the NHP was legal in Washoe County and felt that by next Monday they would be fully compliant in the State if all goes well.

[Note: Technical difficulties on the tape – a majority of discussion on this item was not recorded]

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mark mentioned that at the last IFC meeting, approval was made to the attorney general for a permanent position for counsel for the Homeland Security Commission as of January 28th, and Glade Myler would be filling that position.

VIII PUBLIC COMMENT

Dick Mirgon, Communications Director for Douglas County distributed a letter from Nextel and wanted the NCSC to be aware of it.

Mr. Mirgon indicated he sat on the NENA Board of Directors and he was concerned with one of the things he heard today and that was interoperability with E911. For the record he said E911 was inoperable and said it wasn't an issue. He felt the issue was who has the ability to receive 911 calls in the state and who has the ability to pay for it. He said the grant discussed earlier is for funding issues and opportunities and not interoperability and he wants people to understand that.

Mr. Mirgon also expressed his concern with this transition for highway patrol simply because I hear its great but we missed the first deadline in December and I don't hear any discussion on why it was missed. Are there problems? Are their interference issues? He said we keep on hearing about the roses, but not the thorns and Douglas County feels the whole story is not being told.

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM
Future Meeting: March 2, 2004

Minutes are posted on the website at: <http://ncsc.nv.gov/>
Questions Call: 775-684-5859 or email maggiet@doit.state.nv.us

Draft minutes submitted by Maggie Thorne, 02/03/04

APPROVED: _____ DATE: _____